Ministry of Advanced Education

Plan for 2017-18

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Government of Saskatchewan

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Statement from the Minister

The Honourable Bronwyn Eyre

Minister of Advanced Education

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Advanced Education Plan for 2017-18.

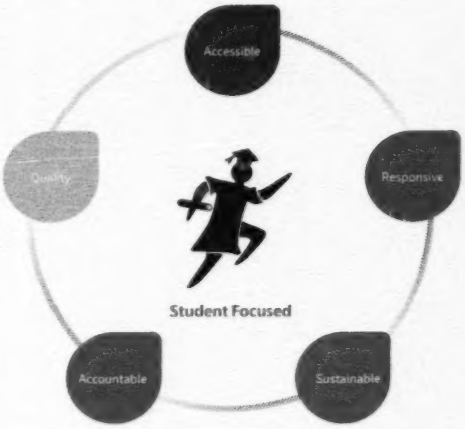
This plan details how our Ministry will support the Government's direction.

Government Direction and Budget for 2017-18 is focused on *Meeting the Challenge*, finding the right balance between addressing the deficit and ensuring that Saskatchewan people continue to have the programs, services and infrastructure that they need. Government will deliver sustainable, high quality public services in the most cost-effective way possible.

Our Ministry remains committed to working through this period of challenge. We will continue to transform government's delivery of programs and core services.

The Ministry of Advanced Education is guided by the five expectations we have set for ourselves and our partners in the post-secondary education sector.

Our student-focused system must be accessible, responsive, sustainable, accountable and high quality.



We will emphasize sustainability in 2017-18. We will ensure post-secondary education in Saskatchewan operates effectively and within its means. The Ministry will lead collaboration between institutions to identify efficiencies and savings.

The Ministry of Advanced Education will revamp the student loan program to make it more transparent and responsive. Students will know up-front how much money they are receiving in grants and what they may borrow for their studies.

We will ensure Saskatchewan's post-secondary education system continues to support students and economic growth. Students will have the resources they need to succeed in their studies. Employers will have the high-quality graduates they need to thrive. Saskatchewan will continue to be the best place in Canada to live and receive an education.

The Ministry of Advanced Education will support our universities, colleges and technical institutes with operating dollars. We will provide students with grants, loans and scholarships. We will offer tax credits to keep our graduates here at home.

We will ensure the taxpayer dollars we manage are invested carefully and with integrity.

The Ministry will report on progress made toward this plan in the 2017-18 Annual Report.

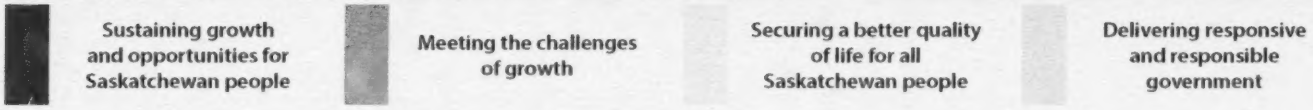
Response to Government Direction

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to *Meeting the Challenge* of the current fiscal situation. In so doing, Government will continue to support and encourage economic growth, and ensure government services are affordable and sustainable in the long term. This will include pursuing transformational change so that Saskatchewan people have the programs, services and infrastructure they need now and in the future.

This focus will continue to advance Government toward the realization of Saskatchewan's Vision and goals.

Saskatchewan's Vision

"... to be the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life."


Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people
Meeting the challenges of growth
Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people
Delivering responsive and responsible government

Saskatchewan's Vision and goals provide the framework for ministries, agencies and partners to align their programs and services and meet the needs of Saskatchewan's residents.

All ministries and agencies will report on progress in their 2017-18 annual reports.

Operational Plan

Mandate Statement

The Ministry is responsible for the post-secondary education sector that supports a growing Saskatchewan and that leads to a higher quality of life. The Ministry places a high priority on meeting the needs of students by ensuring that our post-secondary sector is accessible, responsive, sustainable, accountable and provides quality education. Working with our post-secondary institutions, the Ministry is focused on providing opportunities for all students, especially First Nations and Métis people, to prepare them to live, work and learn in Saskatchewan.

Mission Statement

The Ministry provides leadership and resources to foster a high-quality advanced education and training system that responds to the needs of Saskatchewan's people and economy.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

This Ministry goal supports the strategic priority from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: improving education outcomes.

This Ministry goal supports the post-secondary sector expectation of accessibility. This expectation is that Saskatchewan's post-secondary sector offers qualified people the opportunity to attend and succeed.

Ministry Goal

Students succeed in post-secondary education

Strategy

Increase post-secondary attainment

Key Actions

- Provide financial supports for current and future students
  - Support proactive savings for post-secondary education through the Saskatchewan Advantage Grant for Education Savings
  - Provide students a revised suite of financial supports
  - Continue to support the development of free open education resources
- Support education pathways and transitions for students
  - Encourage the development of options to give credit for both high school and post-secondary education
  - Support further work on enhancing credit transfer with Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions
  - Encourage more Saskatchewan students to study abroad
- Develop and encourage services to meet the diverse needs of students
  - Encourage institutions to increase the participation and success of First Nations and Métis students

Performance Measures

Post-secondary Educational Attainment of Population Aged 15 Years and Over

This measure changes slowly over time. The 2017-18 target is to maintain the current level.

Educational Attainment of First Nations and Métis and Non-First Nations and Métis Populations Aged 15 Years and Over by Credential

This measure changes slowly over time. The 2017-18 target is to maintain the current level. Over time the target is to match the attainment level of the overall Saskatchewan population.

Number of Saskatchewan students studying abroad

By 2020, increase the number of Saskatchewan students studying abroad by 50 per cent over the 2011 baseline.

Government Goals

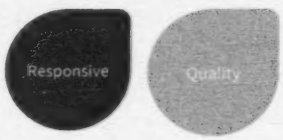
Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

This Ministry goal supports the strategic priorities from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: increasing Saskatchewan's competitiveness, improving education outcomes and connecting workers and employers, and investing in skills training.



This Ministry goal supports the post-secondary sector expectations of responsiveness and quality. The responsiveness expectation focuses on meeting the needs of students, communities and the economy. The quality expectation concentrates on meeting required standards and maintaining public confidence.

Ministry Goal

Meet the advanced education needs of the province

Strategy

Provide education and training to meet the diverse needs of Saskatchewan's labour market

Key Actions

- Encourage alignment of programs with labour market demand
- Encourage post-secondary institutions and employers to implement experiential learning opportunities
- Increase the number of international students studying in Saskatchewan
- Provide operational support for the Provincial Training Allowance (in collaboration with Ministry of the Economy) and the Graduate Retention Program (in collaboration with Ministry of Finance)

Strategy

Ensure technology supports the delivery of services to clients

Key Actions

- Continue to update elements of the Ministry's client service database software
- Improve online client services through a student portal

Strategy

Ensure required program and service standards are met

Key Actions

- Ensure new degree program applications undergo the quality assurance process

Performance Measures

Employment Rate by Credential

This measure changes slowly over time and is impacted by the overall state of the economy and labour market. The 2017-18 target is to maintain the employment rate by credential.

Number of international students studying in Saskatchewan

By 2020, increase the number of international students studying in Saskatchewan by 75 per cent over the 2011 baseline.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

This Ministry goal supports the strategic priority from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: delivering responsive and responsible government.

This Ministry goal supports the post-secondary sector expectations of sustainability and accountability. The sustainability expectation is Saskatchewan's post-secondary sector operates within the resources available. The accountability expectation focuses on achieving expected outcomes and being transparent.

Ministry Goal

Saskatchewan's post-secondary sector is sustainable

Strategy

Enhance accountability mechanisms

Key Actions

- Provide leadership and financial oversight to the post-secondary sector
- Expand the number of post-secondary indicators in the pilot project
- Solicit citizen input and feedback on the Ministry's priority front-line programs and services and the technology used to deliver them
- Continue to implement the Action Plan on Accountability and Governance

Strategy

Physical infrastructure supports Ministry and sector goals

Key Actions

- Provide operational funding for post-secondary institutions
- Provide capital funding for repairs and maintenance
- Develop and implement a sector-wide capital plan
- Work with the public post-secondary institutions to inventory the deferred maintenance backlog

Strategy

Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions collaborate to serve students and operate efficiently

Key Actions

- Encourage post-secondary sector collaboration
- Encourage efficiencies within the sector

Strategy

Focus on improvement and innovation

Key Actions

- Undertake continuous improvement and innovation initiatives
- Conduct and implement the recommendations from core program reviews and evaluations

Highlights

2017-18 Budget Highlights:

Strong support for Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions, with $649 million in operating and capital funding including:

- $450 million for universities, federated and affiliated colleges;
- $150 million to operate Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies and Gabriel Dumont Institute;
- $27 million to operate Saskatchewan's regional colleges; and,
- Almost $22 million for capital repairs and maintenance.

Students will continue to benefit from over $46 million in financial supports:

- $26 million for the Student Aid Fund to provide student loans and grants;
  - Transforming the student loans system to provide students up-front grants of $1,000, as well as greater clarity on how much they need to contribute and what they will be required to repay;
- $12 million for scholarships, including the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship; and,
- $8 million for the Saskatchewan Advantage Grant for Education Savings program.

In recognition of the fiscal challenges facing the Province, overall spending at the Ministry of Advanced Education will decline $44 million, or 5.8 per cent.

Over the past 10 years, the Province has invested almost $8.3B in post-secondary education and student supports.

Financial Summary

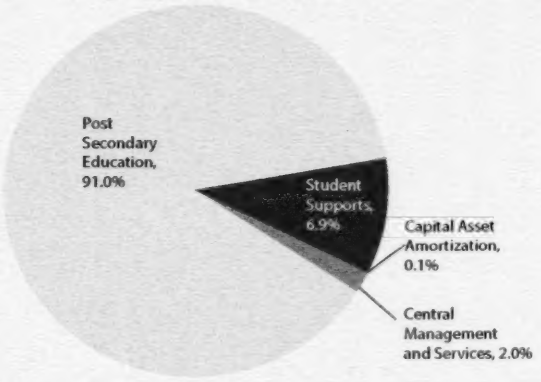
Advanced Education Budget 2017-18 Estimates ($716.4 million)	(in thousands of dollars)
Central Management and Services	$ 14,660
Post-Secondary Education	$ 651,841
Student Supports	$ 49,735
Major Capital Asset Acquisitions	--
Total Appropriation	**$ 716,236**
Capital Asset Acquisitions	--
Capital Asset Amortization	167
Total Expense	**$716,403**

Advanced Education Transfers to Post-Secondary Institutions ($648.9 million)	(in thousands of dollars)
Universities, Federated and Affiliated Colleges	$ 450,071
Technical Institutes	$ 149,990
Regional Colleges	$ 27,316
Post-Secondary Capital	$21,500
Total	**$ 648,877**

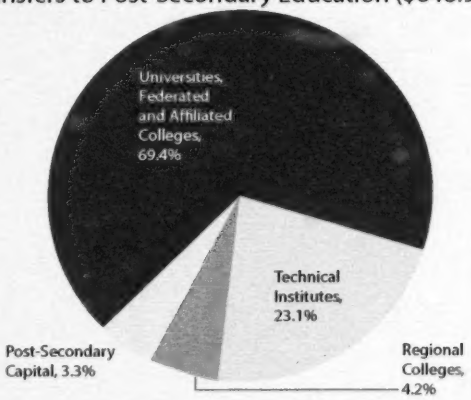
FTE Staff Complement	142.9

For more information, see the Budget Estimates at: http://www.saskatchewan.ca/budget

Ministry of Advanced Education
Budget ($716.4 million)



Ministry of Advanced Education
transfers to Post-Secondary Education ($648.9 million)



For More Information

Please visit the Ministry's website at: http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/advanced-education